

Message Text

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71

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCS-03 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8044

INFO CINCSO FOR POLAD

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 1952

E . O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, DR

SUBJECT: BALAGUER MAKES HIGH- LEVEL PERSONNEL CHANGES IN GODR

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. ON MAY 3, PRESIDENT BALAGUER SIGNED SIX DECREES MAKING A NUMBER OF HIGH- LEVEL PERSONNEL CHANGES IN HIS ADMINISTRATION. AMONG THE MORE SIGNIFICANT MOVES WERE:

1. CARLOS J. SELIMAN B. WAS NAMED SECRETARY OF FINANCE REPLACING DR. ARTURO MUNIZHMARTE WHO IN TURN WAS NAMED SECRETARY OF STATE WITHOUT PORTFOLIO SUCCEEDING DR. TOMAS ALCIBIADES ESPINOZA WHO WAS NOT NAMED TO ANOTHER POSITION. SELIMAN, ESSENTIALLY APOLITICAL, HAS BEEN AN EMPLOYEE OF THE OFFICE OF CUSTOMS AND PORTS FOR THE PAST THIRTY YEARS AND HAD HEADED THAT OFFICE SINCE JULY 1966.

2. DR. JORGE MARTINEZ LAVANDIER WAS NAMED AS DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMS AND PORTS REPLACING CARLOS SELIMAN. MARTINEZ, A FORMER US CITIZEN, HAD BRIEFLY SERVED AS DIRECTOR OF CUSTOMS AND PORTS DURING THE BOSCH ADMINISTRATION. SINCE JULY 1966, HE HAS SERVED AS DIRECTOR OF INTERNAL REVENUE.

3. FREDDY JOSE BORDAS WAS NAMED TO SUCCEED MARTINEZ LAVANDIER AS DIRECTOR OF INTERNAL REVENUE. AT THE TIME OF HIS DESIGNATION, CONFIDENTIAL

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HE WAS SERVING AS SUB DIRECTOR OF THAT OFFICE.

4. LIC. FABIO FIALLO WAS NAMED ATTORNEY GENERAL REPLACING DR. JUAN ARISTIDES TAVERAS GUZMAN WHO IN TURN WAS NAMED SECRETARY

OF STATE WITHOUT PORTFOLIO REPLACING DR. PORFIRIO DANTES CASTILLO WHO WAS NOT DESIGNATED TO A NEW POSITION. LIC. FIALLO, WHO IS UNKNOWN TO THE EMBASSY, HAS REPORTEDLY HELD OTHER HIGH GOVERNMENT POSTS. HE IS FROM MOCA.

5. LIC. CESAR A. ARIZA MARTINEZ WAS NAMED SECRETARY OF STATE WITHOQT PORTFOLIO REPLACING DR. LEONARDO MATOS BERRIDO, PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE REFORMISTA PARTY. MATOS WAS NOT GIVEN A NEW POSITION. ARIZA WAS AT ONE TIME ADMINISTRATOR OF THE STATE- OWNED SAN RAFAEL INSURANCE COMPANY. HE WAS REPORTEDLY ONE OF THE MORE HONEST OF THE CORDE ADMINISTRATORS.

6. AMBASSADOR EDUARDO MATOS DIAZ WAS NAMED DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AND AFROASIAN AFFAIRS IN THE FOREIGN SECRETARIAT SUCCEEDING AMBASSADOR NIVOLAS SILFA WHO WAS NOT REASSIGNED. AMBASSADOR MATOS PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS AMBASSADOR IN MEXICO AND SPAIN.

END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL.

COMMENT: THE FOREGOING CHANGES SEEM LARGELY ROUTINE AND REFLECT BALAGUER'S CONTINUING POLICY OF MAKING FREQUENT PERSONNEL SHIFTS TO SERVE HIS OWN ENDS. THEY MAY ALSO REPRESENT AN ATTEMPT BY BALAGUER TO POLISH THE IMAGE OF HIS ADMINISTRATION. MOST OF THE CHANGES SEEM DEVOID OF POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THAT OF AMBASSADOR SILFA WHO WAS OFFICIAL LINKED TO A SUPPOSED CONSPIRACY IN WHICH BOSCH CONFIDANT SACHA VOLMAN WAS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED (SD 1862 OF MAY 1, 1973). THE REMOVAL OF DR. TAVERAS GUZMAN MAY BE CONNECTED TO HIS ADMITTED FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION IN THE FLEDGLING BANK OF SANTO DOMINGO. MELOY

CONFIDENTIAL

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